

MAY -4 1925

✓ ©CIL 21420 ✓

✓ "WILDFIRE" ✓

✓ Adapted from the Play by

~~Authored by:~~

George V. Hobart  
and George Broadhurst ✓

Directed by

✓ T. Hayes Hunter  
6 Reels ~~Drama~~ ✓

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Produced by  
Distinctive Pictures Corporation. ✓

### SYNOPSIS

Claire Barrington's father left her a racing stable, heavy debts and almost no money. A large indebtedness on the stable is still owing to John Duffy. Its payment, retention of the stable and the future of Claire and her sister, Myrtle, hang on the outcome of the approaching \$100,000 sweepstakes, in which Wildfire is entered. Two weeks before the race, Duffy declares Wildfire must lose and instructs a hireling to "use your own judgment."

Claire's ownership of the stable is unknown even to Myrtle and she has difficulty in keeping the secret.

Dr. Woodhurst, State Senator, is author of a bill to kill racing and a benefit bazaar is given at his home. Claire and Myrtle attend and Woodhurst expresses pleasure over the fondness of Myrtle and Ralph, his son, for each other. He thinks Ralph a model boy, not knowing that he bets heavily on the races.

Duffy calls on Claire and is making advances, which she tries to discourage, when Garrison, an attractive young man, arrives, after five years absence. He and Claire greet each other warmly but the men are enemies. Duffy had been Garrison's captain in France, and when Garrison caught the other tormenting a girl he struck him, causing his own arrest. Garrison now tells Claire he has two objects in life, to win her and break the Duffy stable. Claire gasps but remains silent.

One night the stable burns. Wildfire is barely rescued, but her regular jockey is so badly injured he cannot ride in the Sweepstakes. The incendiary, in fleeing, drops his hat, which a stable employee picks up.

Dr. Woodhurst gives Ralph \$2,000 the profits of the bazaar, to deposit. Duffy appears at the Woodhurst house, calls for Ralph and declares he is going to tell Dr. Woodhurst of Ralph's \$1,000 gambling debt to him. Ralph pays Duffy that amount from the bazaar's receipts, then shoves him into a side room, as someone rings the door bell. Donovan, Wildfire's trainer, arrives and tells Claire, who is calling there, of the fire. Duffy overhears and when Donovan goes, he too tells her about the fire and declares that Garrison started it. Claire, recalling the latter's threat, fears the worst. Garrison calls, tells Claire he has bought Jackdaw and expects to beat Wildfire, keeping his promise to beat the Duffy stable. He leaves bewildered, when Claire says she despises him.

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Duffy is to view the race from the window of Donovan's office. He instructs the jockey that if he sees a handkerchief waved from the window, Wildfire is to win; otherwise she must be made to lose. Donovan has invited Claire too, to watch the race from his window, she and Duffy are accidentally thrown together. Duffy puts his arm around Claire and is surprised that she permits it. Claire lets her hand slip from Duffy's shoulder to the upper pocket of his coat and draws out the handkerchief. Then, behind his back, she waves it out of the window as a signal.

Wildfire and Jackdaw are neck and neck. In the last five yards Wildfire plunges to the front and wins by a head. Duffy tries to kiss Claire and she slaps him. When he finds she has signalled he is furious.

At night a detective goes to the stable looking for Duffy. He tells Donovan he has arrested the man who burned the stable -- traced him through the cap and that the prisoner confessed he was Duffy's hireling. The detective says too, he "got a lot on Duffy" through Garrison.

Garrison calling on Claire, tries to explain his threat to break the Duffy stable but she refuses to listen. Then Donovan rushes in and repeats the detective's report, clearing Garrison. Claire and Garrison make up. Meanwhile, Ralph and Myrtle have eloped and married.

MAY 4 1925

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Dated at Washington, D.C.

May 6th, 1925

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Vitagraph Phillips

(Claimant of Copyright)

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G. F. Xater.

MAY 5 1925

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